Tuesday, March 2, 2021 Members of the Judiciary Committee

I am writing in support of H.B. 6355 AN ACT CONCERNING RISK PROTECTION ORDERS OR WARRANTS.

Red flag laws are on the books in 18 states plus Washington, D.C.; in 12 of those states and D.C., family members may directly petition the court. Connecticut set an example for the nation when it passed one of the first red flag laws in 1999. We can make Connecticut SAFER by including family and household members as petitioners. Currently, family members already approach law enforcement in at least 40% of the cases seeking a firearms seizure order. Residents need to be able to go directly to the court and translates into lives saved.

Many will complain oh the government infringing on my rights.. this is simply untrue. Their mothers, sisters, wives, brothers and loved ones are seeking to stay safe and keep their loved ones safe and often from self harm. This action can be statistically proven to lower the incidence of firearm suicide, or other incidents of gun violence and is especially necessary in this time of isolation and increase of mental stressors.

Vote YES on HB 6355. Save a life.

Irene Skrybailo, New Milford CT